

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A dimeric fusion protein comprising two identical polypeptide chains, each said chain comprising an extracellular region of an activating Fc $\gamma$ R comprising an Fc binding site, joined to a molecule that binds an FcRn, wherein said molecule does not bind any Fc $\gamma$ R and wherein the dimeric fusion protein specifically binds an immune complex.  
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2. The dimeric fusion protein of claim 1, wherein said activating Fc $\gamma$ R is Fc $\gamma$ RIIA or Fc $\gamma$ RIIA.
3. A dimeric fusion protein comprising two identical polypeptide chains, each said chain comprising an extracellular region of an inhibitory Fc $\gamma$ R comprising an Fc binding site, joined to a molecule that binds an FcRn, wherein said molecule does not bind any Fc $\gamma$ R and wherein the dimeric fusion protein specifically binds an immune complex.  
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4. The dimeric fusion protein of claim 1 or 3, wherein said molecule that binds an FcRn is the hinge-constant region of an IgG molecule
5. The dimeric fusion protein of claim 4, wherein said inhibitory Fc $\gamma$ R is Fc $\gamma$ RIIB.  
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6. The dimeric fusion protein of claim 4, wherein said IgG molecule is selected from the group consisting of IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, and IgG4.
7. A dimeric fusion protein comprising two identical polypeptide chains, each said chain comprising an extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIA comprising an Fc binding site, joined to a hinge-constant region of IgG2, wherein the dimeric fusion protein specifically binds an immune complex.  
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8. A dimeric fusion protein comprising two identical polypeptide chains, each said chain comprising an extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIB comprising an Fc binding site, joined to a hinge-constant region of IgG2, wherein the dimeric fusion protein specifically binds an immune complex.
9. A method for treating, preventing or ameliorating one or more symptoms of an autoimmune disorder, said method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a  
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therapeutically effective amount of the dimeric fusion protein of claim 1 or 3, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said autoimmune disorder is idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis,

5 Rieter's Syndrome, psoriasis, systemic lupus erythematosus, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, scleroderma, autoantibody triggered urticaria, pemphigus, vasculitic syndromes, Goodpasture's syndrome, multiple sclerosis, Sjogren's syndrome, Kawasaki's disease, polymyositis, or dermatomyositis.

11. The method of claim 9 further comprising administering to said subject a

10 therapeutically effective amount of one or more anti-inflammatory agents.

12. The method of claim 9 further comprising administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of one or more immunomodulatory agents.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein at least one immunomodulatory agent is a small organic molecule.

15 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the small organic molecule is methotrexate, leflunomide, cyclophosphamide, cyclosporin A, FK506, mycophenolate mofetil, rapamycin, mizoribine, deoxyspergualin, brequinar, malonitrolamide, steroid, or corticosteroid.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein at least one anti-inflammatory agents is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug.

20 16. The method of claim 15, wherein the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug is aspirin, ibuprofen, diclofenac, nabumetone, naproxen, or ketoprofen.

17. A method of treating, preventing, or ameliorating one or more symptoms of idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, said method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, a therapeutically effective amount of the dimeric fusion protein of claim 1 or  
25 3, in combination with administering to said subject a standard idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura therapy.

18. A method of treating, preventing, or ameliorating one or more symptoms of idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, said method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, a therapeutically effective amount of the dimeric fusion protein of claim 1 or 3, wherein said subject is refractory to a standard idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura

5 therapy.

19. The method of claim 17 or 18, wherein said standard idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura therapy is intravenous immunoglobulin therapy, corticosteroid therapy, splenectomy, or plasmapheresis.

20. The method of claim 9, 17, or 18 wherein said subject is human.

10 21. The method of claim 17 or 18, wherein said subject is immunocompromised.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein said subject has cancer.

23. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the dimeric fusion protein of claim 1 or 3, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

24. A dimeric fusion protein comprising two identical polypeptide chains, each said

15 chain comprising a variant extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIA joined to a hinge-constant region of IgG2, wherein said variant extracellular region comprises at least one amino acid modification relative to a wild-type extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIA, such that a 3G8 monoclonal antibody binds said dimeric fusion protein with a lower affinity than said monoclonal 3G8 antibody binds said wild-type extracellular region, and wherein the 20 dimeric fusion protein specifically binds an immune complex.

25. The dimeric fusion protein of claim 24, wherein said at least one amino acid modification in the extracellular region comprises a substitution in the 3G8 binding site of Fc $\gamma$ RIIA.

26. The dimeric fusion protein of claim 25, wherein said 3G8 binding site is the BC loop 25 of Fc $\gamma$ RIIA.

27. The dimeric fusion protein of claim 25, wherein said 3G8 binding site is the FG loop of Fc $\gamma$ RIIA.

28. The dimeric fusion protein of claim 24, wherein said at least one amino acid modification in the extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIIA comprises a substitution at position 112 with aspartic acid, at position 113 with lysine, and at position 114 with proline.

29. The dimeric fusion protein of claim 24, wherein said at least one amino acid modification in the extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIIA comprises a substitution at position 160 with phenylalanine.

5 30. The dimeric fusion protein of claim 24, wherein said at least one amino acid modification in the extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIIA comprises a substitution at position 154 with asparagine and at position 155 with isoleucine.

10 31. A dimeric fusion protein comprising two identical polypeptide chains, each said chain comprising a variant extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIIA joined to a hinge-constant region of IgG2, wherein said variant extracellular region comprises at least one amino acid modification relative to a wild-type extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIIA, such that an Fc $\gamma$ RIIIA antibody binds said dimeric fusion protein with a lower affinity than said antibody binds said wild-type extracellular region, and wherein the dimeric fusion protein specifically binds an immune complex.

15 32. A method for treating, preventing or ameliorating one or more symptoms of an autoimmune disorder, said method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of the dimeric fusion protein of claim 24 or 33, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20 33. A method for treating, preventing or ameliorating one or more symptoms of an autoimmune disorder, said method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof: (i) a therapeutically effective amount of a molecule which specifically binds a wild-type extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIIA comprising an Fc $\gamma$  binding site; and (ii) a therapeutically effective amount of a dimeric fusion protein comprising two identical polypeptide chains, each said chain comprising a variant extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIIA, wherein said variant extracellular region comprises at least one amino acid modification relative to said wild-type extracellular region, such that said molecule binds said dimeric fusion protein with a lower affinity than said molecule binds said wild-type extracellular region, and wherein said dimeric fusion protein specifically binds an immune complex.

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34. The method of claim 33, wherein said molecule is an antibody.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein said antibody is CLB-GRAN1, BW2-9/2, GRM1, DJ130c, LNK16.

36. A method for treating, preventing or ameliorating one or more symptoms of an  
5 autoimmune disorder, said method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof (i)  
a therapeutically effective amount of the dimeric fusion protein of claim 24; and (ii) a  
therapeutically effective amount of a 3G8 monoclonal antibody or an antibody that  
competes with 3G8 for binding.

37. The method of claim 36, wherein said 3G8 monoclonal antibody or an antibody that  
10 competes with 3G8 for binding is a humanized antibody.

38. A method for treating, preventing or ameliorating one or more symptoms of an  
autoimmune disorder, said method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof: (i)  
a therapeutically effective amount of an antibody which specifically binds a wild-type  
15 extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIB comprising an Fc $\gamma$  binding site; and (ii) a therapeutically  
effective amount of a dimeric fusion protein comprising two identical polypeptide chains,  
each said chain comprising a variant extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIB, wherein said variant  
extracellular region comprises at least one amino acid modification relative to said wild-  
type extracellular region, such that said antibody binds said dimeric fusion protein with a  
lower affinity than said antibody binds said wild-type extracellular region, and wherein said  
20 dimeric fusion protein specifically binds an immune complex.

39. The method of claim 38, wherein said antibody is produced by clone 2B6, having  
ATCC accession number PTA-4591.

40. The method of claim 38, wherein said antibody is produced by clone 3H7, having  
ATCC accession number PTA-4592.

25 41. A method of treating, preventing, or ameliorating one or more symptoms of  
idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, said method comprising administering to a subject in  
need thereof, a therapeutically effective amount of the dimeric fusion protein of claim 24 or  
33 in combination with administering to said subject a standard idiopathic  
thrombocytopenic purpura therapy.

42. The method of claim 41, wherein said standard idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura therapy is intravenous immunoglobulin therapy, corticosteroid therapy, splenectomy, or plamsapheresis.

43. A method of treating, preventing, or ameliorating one or more symptoms of idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, said method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, a therapeutically effective amount of the dimeric fusion protein of claim 24 in combination with a therapeutically effective amount of a 3G8 monoclonal antibody or an antibody that competes with 3G8 for binding.

44. A method of treating, preventing, or ameliorating one or more symptoms of idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, said method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, a therapeutically effective amount of the dimeric fusion protein of claim 24 in combination with a therapeutically effective amount of a 3G8 monoclonal antibody, wherein said subject is refractory to a standard idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura therapy.

45. A method of treating, preventing, or ameliorating one or more symptoms of idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, said method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, a therapeutically effective amount of the dimeric fusion protein of claim 24 in combination with a therapeutically effective amount of a 3G8 monoclonal antibody, wherein said method does not result in a side effect of standard idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura therapy.

46. The method of claim 45, wherein said side effect is neutropenia or cytokine release syndrome.

47. The method of claim 43 further comprising administering to said subject a standard idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura therapy.

48. The method of claim 47, wherein said standard idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura therapy is intravenous immunoglobulin therapy (IVIG).

49. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the dimeric fusion protein of any of claims 1 or 3, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

50. A pharmaceutical composition comprising: (i) a therapeutically effective amount of a molecule which specifically binds a wild-type extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIIA comprising an Fc $\gamma$  binding site; (ii) a therapeutically effective amount of a dimeric fusion protein comprising two identical polypeptide chains, each said chain comprising a variant 5 extracellular region of Fc $\gamma$ RIIIA, wherein said variant extracellular region comprises at least one amino acid modification relative to said wild-type extracellular region, such that said molecule binds said dimeric fusion protein with a lower affinity than said molecule binds said wild-type extracellular region, and wherein said dimeric fusion protein specifically binds an immune complex; and (iii) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10 51. A nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide of claim 1 or 3.

52. A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 51.

53. The vector of claim 52 which is an expression vector.

54. A host cell comprising the nucleic acid of claim 51.

15 55. A method for recombinantly producing the polypeptide of claim 1 or 3, said method comprising: (i) culturing in a medium a host cell comprising a nucleic acid encoding said polypeptide, under conditions suitable for the expression of said polypeptide; and (ii) recovery of said polypeptide from said medium.

56. An isolated polypeptide, comprising an amino acid sequence of one of SEQ ID Nos. 20 1-4, 34, 36, 38, 40, or 42.

57. A fragment of any of the polypeptides of claim 58, wherein said fragment binds an immune complex.

58. An isolated polypeptide, comprising an amino acid sequence that is at least 75% homologous to the amino acid sequence from any of SEQ ID Nos. 1-4, 34, 36, 38, 40, and 25 42 and binds an immune complex but does not bind Fc $\gamma$ Rs.

59. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No: 1-4, 34, 36, 38, 40, and 42 and binds an immune complex but does not bind Fc $\gamma$ Rs.

60. An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a dimeric fusion protein having a  
5 nucleotide sequence that hybridizes under highly stringent conditions to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ. ID Nos. 7, 8, 35, 37, 39, or 41.